



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

September 25, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

REPORT BACK ON SELF-HELP LEGAL ACCESS CENTERS FUNDING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

During Budget Deliberations on June 18, 2007, Supervisor Burke requested the Chief Executive Office to report back on the allocation of funds countywide to expand the Self-Help Legal Access Centers (SHLAC) into other Courts; and the Centers having to report to one agency.

Background

The SHLAC Program began in 1999 as a pilot program at the Van Nuys Courthouse. Because the pilot was deemed to be successful, various service models were developed and additional Centers were opened at different Courts. Several factors most likely contributed to the existing variation in funding levels between the Centers, but two issues were the locations selected by each Board office, and the types of Courts at those locations. The types of Courts usually determine the types of assistance most often requested by patrons. There are no residency restrictions and patrons may be served at any one of the nine Centers.

Currently there are eight Centers, five of which are funded at a total cost of \$1.064 million. The remaining three Centers are funded with \$600,000 in Board Discretionary funds. Eight of the Centers are operated by Neighborhood Legal Services through a contract administered by the Department of Consumer Affairs. A ninth Center in Compton is funded with \$130,000 through the Executive Office Board of Supervisors. The Compton Center is operated by Orange County Legal Aid.

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Recommendation

We are recommending expansion of the SHLAC Program at an additional cost of \$501,000 to increase the total countywide Program cost to \$1.565 million. Total funding would allocate \$313,000 for the SHLAC Program for each District, excluding Centers funded with Board Discretionary funds (attachment).

All of the Centers should be operated under one contract administered by the Department of Consumer Affairs. This ensures the greatest efficiency and uniformity in administration and monitoring of the Program. Additionally, one contract allows Consumer Affairs to work with a single contractor to improve program services, reporting requirements, and to develop workload data to ensure equity for future allocations for this Program.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact David Wei at (213) 893-2534.

WTF:LS
RG:DW:kd

Attachment

c: Department of Consumer Affairs
Superior Court

SHELF-HELP LEGAL ACCESS CENTER (SHLAC)

ORIGINAL LOCATIONS	Funded Amounts	Rec. Amounts	Rec. Changes
Pomona (1st District)	\$ 240,000	\$ 313,000	\$ 73,000
Inglewood (2nd District)	122,000	313,000	191,000
Van Nuys (3rd District)	313,000	313,000	0
Long Beach (4th District)	200,000	313,000	113,000
Antelope Valley (5th District)	189,000	313,000	124,000
Total General County Funded	\$1,064,000	\$1,565,000	\$501,000

FUNDED WITH BOARD DISCRETIONARY FUND

Compton (2nd District) *	\$130,000
San Fernando (3rd District)	189,000
Santa Monica (3rd District)	161,000
Torrance (4th District)	250,000
Total Board Discretionary Funded	\$730,000

* The Compton SHLAC is paid through the Executive Office of BOS and not part of Consumer Affairs' service agreement.